



Martha "Marty" Beck

May 13, 1945 - May 22, 2009

Martha "Marty" (Preston) Beck died Friday, May 22, in her South Toledo home nine days after her 64th birthday. As a breast cancer survivor for more than 17 years, Marty exemplified courage, grace and hope.

Marty was born May 13, 1945, of the union of Wanda (Toronski) and John Preston. She grew up in the East 71st Street Polish neighborhood of Cleveland, where alleys became playgrounds and people walked to the grocery store, bakery, theater, school and church.

In 1958 her family moved to Toledo, where she would meet her high school sweetheart, best friend and husband of more than 42 years. She graduated from McAuley High School and attended the University of Toledo.

After holding jobs in retail and banking, she started work in the medical field as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1981. As an LPN, Marty worked for Flower Hospital, home care provider Caring Services, and Foundation Park Alzheimer's treatment facility.

In 1991, Marty became a third-generation member of her maternal family to be identified as having breast cancer. She was also the primary advocate for her daughter Megan who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma within two weeks of Marty's diagnosis.

After Megan's death in 1992, Marty was a volunteer for St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center's Oncology Outreach program before embarking on a new career as a Certified Tumor Registrar. CTRs help build a national database that is used to develop more effective cancer treatments, including the

surgery, radiation, chemotherapy and other treatments that Marty received herself.

Marty served two years as the treasurer of the Ohio Cancer Registrars Association and with husband Denny was a co-presenter at OCRA's 2001 annual meeting. In 2005, she was named Northwest Ohio's Breast Cancer Survivor of the Year during the annual Survivors Breakfast.

This remarkable woman was the unconditional caregiver to family and friends in need. When her time of need came, she felt uncomfortable being the care-receiver and continued to show her concern for others.

She built many friendships by teaching people how to embrace life through laughter and love and in spite of life's tears. She had a flare for fashion and jewelry that often made her sense of "casual" seem downright dressy to others. She truly appreciated her PT Cruiser (aka "Petunia"), was very fond of cats and dogs, and was a grand traveling companion, especially on annual summer trips to Southern Ontario.

Marty is survived by husband Denny, daughter Meredith (Brad) Kaufman, grandchildren Nicolas, Catie and Jeremy, brother-in-law Rev. David Beck, sister-in-law Andrea (Clay) Warling, nieces Leslie Beck and Margie (Tarek) Dernaika, nephew Donny (Millie) Beck, and cousins Barbara, Gene, Tim, Dolores, Bernie and Bob.

Friends and family will meet to celebrate Marty's life on Tuesday, May 26, from 2 to 9 p.m. at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd., Toledo, OH 43614, where a Prayer Vigil will be held at 7 p.m. On Wednesday, May 27, after 9:00 a.m. visitation in the Funeral Home, a procession will leave at 9:45 for the 10:30 a.m. Funeral Mass at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at U.S. Route 20 (Central Avenue) and State Route 64 in Assumption, Ohio. A reception will follow in the Secor Room of the National Center for Nature Photography in Secor Metropark.

The family thanks Dr. Christopher Bates and his staff and the oncology, radiation, emergency room, and wound care professionals of St. Anne Mercy Hospital and St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center for their excellent care. The

family is also grateful to Hospice of Northwest Ohio for helping Marty conclude her time on Earth in comfort and dignity.

For charitable donations in her memory, the family suggests the Megan Martha Beck Spirit of Notre Dame Award at Notre Dame Academy and/or the Megan Beck Scholarship of the music program at St. John's Jesuit High School. For details, pick up an information sheet at the funeral home or contact a family member.

Tribute Wall

KB

“ Dear Mr.Beck,
I am sorry to hear about Mrs. Beck. I remember all the fun days on Bowen Rd. She will be missed. Sincerely Kcee

Kcee Schaarschmidt Balnius - July 28, 2013 at 04:41 AM



“ My heart goes out to the Beck family. Megan was my friend in junior high and high school and I know how devoted her mother was to her, especially during Megan's battle with cancer. I had no idea that Megan's mother was battling cancer as well...what an amazing woman to be so strong for her daughter and after Megan's passing despite her own struggle! I can only hope that her family finds comfort and peace knowing that she is finally reunited with Megan.##imported-begin##Laura Csomos##imported-end##

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rather than being part of God's purpose, the Bible calls death an enemy (1 Corinthians 15:26). In resurrecting Lazarus back to earth, Jesus demonstrated what he would do as King of God's government or Kingdom. You can hope to see Marty again because the Bible promises 'there is going to be a resurrection of both the righteous (those who know and serve God) and the unrighteous (those who because of circumstances didn't have the chance to know and serve God)' Acts 24:15. To learn more about the resurrection contact one of Jehovah's Witnesses. I am sorry for your loss...Sincerely, Carisa##imported-begin##Carisa Runzwithwolves@hotmail.com##imported-end##

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Beck family: You have my deepest sympathies. I knew Marty from the Northwest Ohio Cancer Data Specialists Association. She was a remarkable lady. I will keep you all in my prayers.##imported-begin##Chris Russell##imported-end##

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Denny - you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. It was a gift to know Marty.##imported-begin##Donna Moyer##imported-end##

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Denny- I am so sorry for your loss and am praying for your family's comfort. -Anna##imported-begin##Anna Brogan-Knight##imported-end##

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Denny and family,
Marty's life is to be celebrated! What a courageous, exceptional woman! I wish I could extend support in person. My prayers for inner peace and many blessings for each of you in this difficult time. Beth##imported-begin##Beth Williams Dieringer bdieringer@hotmail.com##imported-end##

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Dennis and family,
I am so glad that Marty entered my life. You are so lucky to have had her as a family member for so long. I know that the loss must be difficult at this time. I am thinking about you all and take solace in the fact that Marty is not suffering anymore. I will keep you all in my prayers. Sincerely Kay*###imported-begin###Kay
Grothaus###imported-end###

May 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM